

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein.

Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended the claims to place the allowable subject matter in condition for allowance. The amendments are intended to expedite issuance of the allowable subject matter. The amendments are not motivated by the references cited in the Office Action.

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 15, 19 and 20

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 15, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,812,527 issued to Kline, et al. (*Kline*). Claims 2 and 4 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 2, 4, 11 and 15 is moot.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 28, which has been canceled. Claims 3, and 6-9 depend from claim 1. Claim 19 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 35, which has been canceled. Claim 20 depends from claim 19. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, 6-9, 19 and 20 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 10

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kline* in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/3385567 issued to Ku, et al. (*Ku*). Claim 10 depends from claim 1, which has been amended to include allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 10 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 12-14

Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kline* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,889,778 issued to Huscroft, et al. (*Huscroft*). Claims 12-14 have been canceled. Thus, the rejection of claims 12-14 is moot.

Claim 16

Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kline* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,201,809 issued to Hunt, et al. (*Hunt*). Claim 16 has been canceled. Thus, the rejection of claim 16 is moot.

Claims 17 and 18

Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kline* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,154,446 issued to Kadambi, et al. (*Kadambi*). Claims 17 and 18 have been canceled. Thus, the rejection of claims 17 and 18 is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 22-35 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim and 35 has been canceled. Claims 22-34 have been rewritten in independent form. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 22-34 are in condition for allowance.

New Claims

New claims 36-77 depend from one of the claims discussed above. Because each of claims 36-77 depend from a claim that is in condition for allowance, Applicants submit that claims 36-77 are also in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1, 3, 6-10, 19, 20, 22-27, 29-34 and 36-77 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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